

Denis Dyomkin
GC. Ex-Reuters
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1 week ago • Edited • Visible to anyone on or off LinkedIn
My pass, so to speak, into the top news brands league came thanks to a Nobel Prize winner, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, and a Reuters legend, Richard Balmforth.

Three years after the USSR, Richard was sent to Vladivostok to cover the return of arguably the most famous Soviet dissident who spent 20 years of forced exile in America. I covered this historic moment, too. Spot us in the crowd: https://lnkd.in/gnXhQHdD; pics by Yuri Maltsev/Vladimir Bocharov, in the chaos on the tarmac as Solzhenitsyn stepped off an Alaska Airlines jet. Richard would later recall he had a huge, unwieldy satellite phone which he couldn't get to work.

The next day in May 1994, Richard hired me as a stringer for Reuters - or, to be precise, still “Reuter” then - for $50 a month initially. Juggling several hats, a bit more moonlighting wouldn’t harm, I figured.

Solzhenitsyn's "high-flown Russian language had us all grappling for our dictionaries," Richard would recall later sending me one of these photos and adding: "That was the time when I asked around to find 'the best journalist active in Vladivostok' and I was pointed in your direction. I took you on and you did Reuters proud over 20 years."

Back in the day, like millions, I felt the gravity of the event. In an obituary 14 years later, Reuters would call Solzhenitsyn “a sometimes Messianic figure, with the mien of a biblical prophet, an icon of resistance to communism in the Cold War.”

The story was personal. In Ryazan, Solzhenitsyn taught physics to my dad. My grandpa was the editor of Priokskaya Pravda, the local Communist Party newspaper, freshly renamed from The Stalin Banner after Khrushchev denounced the dictator. The show trials and repression Solzhenitsyn chronicled had unfolded within my family’s orbit.

In my Kommersant Daily front-page reportage, I cited him as saying that the Russia he returned to had "changed beyond recognition." He left this world in an unrecognizable country again - and would see yet another today, where Stalin is back. In The Gulag Archipelago, stressing his own “mixed Russian-Ukrainian origin”, Solzhenitsyn wrote in 1968: “Since the two peoples have not succeeded over the centuries in living harmoniously, […] we must leave the decision to the Ukrainians themselves.” However, his nationalistic overtones from the 1990s onward were increasingly louder. Solzhenitsyn died in 2008.

I was born and raised in Magadan, a key Gulag hub, but I knew nothing of its dark history until the glasnost. The "Archipelago" was banned, but in perestroika, its smuggled, then seized copies were

eagerly read by apparatchiks. A family friend lent us a pocket-sized émigré edition for a week. At 16, I was shocked.

Before the Gulag saga, it was "One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich" that made Solzhenitsyn famous. Family story goes, its 1st draft was typed at Ryazan's Writers' Union by my grandma, a daughter of a repressed rural priest.

Personal / Not GC's

hashtag
#ColdWarHistory










Reuters Screenocean

**RUSSIA/ FILE: Soviet dissident writer Solzhenitsyn dies at 89**

Record ID: 676366








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HBC:TV

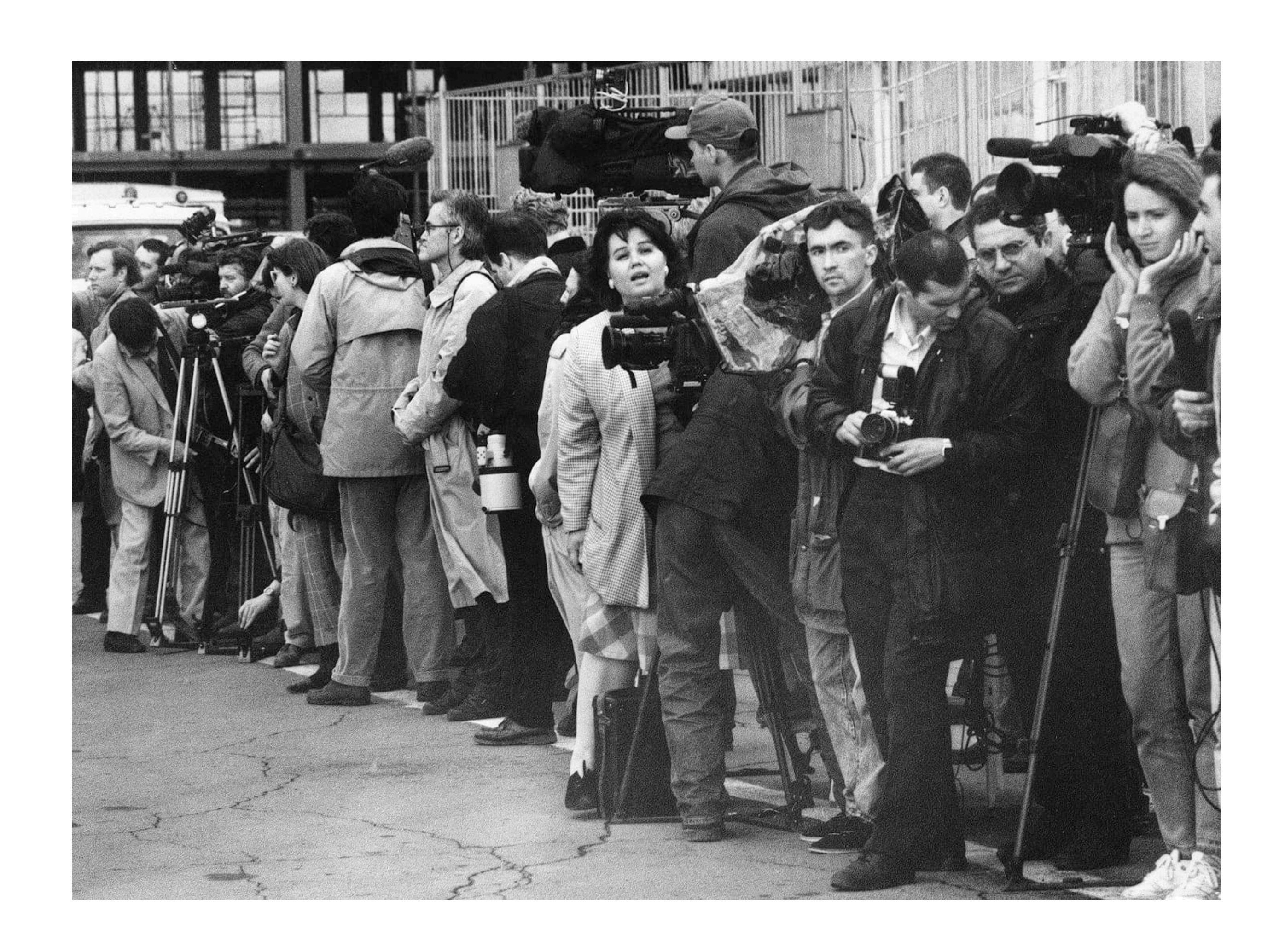









РЕСТОРАН



**Коммерсантъ**




011 / 28.05.1994

## Солженицын во Владивостоке&

Корреспондент Ъ ДЕНИС Ъ-ДЕМКИН сообщает из Владивостока

... Владивосток прибыл Александр Солженицын с женой Наталией ... порядка. Возникла давка. Солженицын был оттеснен в ... авиарейса. На митинге Солженицын сказал: "Я знаю ... следствием. Он вручил Солженицыну букет цветов и ... тяжело. После митинга Солженицын на автомобиле в ...

#Газета «Коммерсантъ» №97 от 28.05.1994 #Архив газеты «Коммерсантъ»

012 / 28.05.1994

## Солженицын приехал в Россию

Повествование в отмеренных сроках. Очередной узел: Май Девяносто четвертого

... Девяносто четвертого Приезд Солженицына в Россию комментируют ... . Куда приехал Солженицын Значение Солженицына во всех трех ... по времени критика Солженицына -- со стороны ... еще слишком преждевременной. Солженицын приезжает в постоктябрьскую ...

#Максим Соколов #Газета «Коммерсантъ» №97 от 28.05.1994 #Архив газеты «Коммерсантъ»

Газета «Коммерсантъ»

28.05.1994, 00:00





**Солженицын во Владивостоке&**

**Корреспондент Ъ ДЕНИС Ъ-ДЕМКИН сообщает из Владивостока**

27 мая во Владивосток прибыл Александр Солженицын с женой Наталией Дмитриевной и сыном Степаном. В аэропорт самолет прибыл с двухчасовой задержкой. Его встречали представители местной власти, духовенства и общественности, а также друг Солженицына писатель Борис Можаев. Сойдя с трапа, писатель оказался в огромной толпе российских и иностранных журналистов. Силы безопасности не смогли обеспечить порядка. Возникла давка. Солженицын был оттеснен в лужу, после чего сказал, что никаких заявлений для прессы в аэропорту делать не будет, заметив лишь, что возвращаться на родину — это нормально. В этот же день на центральной площади города прошел митинг, на котором присутствовало около 6 тыс. человек. Люди ожидали встречи в течение двух часов из-за задержки авиарейса. На митинге Солженицын сказал: "Я знаю, что я приезжаю в Россию истерзанную, обескураженную, ошеломленную, изменившуюся до неузнаваемости, в метаниях ищущую самое себя и свой собственный смысл. Я надеюсь во встрече со многими местными людьми проверить свои впечатления, готов исправить их". На митинге присутствовал также бывший мэр Владивостока Виктор Черепков, в настоящее время находящийся под следствием. Он вручил Солженицыну букет цветов и сказал, что правозащитникам всегда приходилось тяжело. После митинга Солженицын на автомобиле в сопровождении кортежа машин ГАИ отбыл в гостиницу. Он планирует пробыть в Приморском крае 3-4 дня.

"All the News That's Fit to Print"

# The New York Times

**Late Edition**

New York: **Today,** chilly and sunny early, as some clouds arrive. High 72. **Tonight,** clearing. Low 56. **Tomorrow,** sunny, warmer. High 82. **Yesterday,** high 67, low 49. Details, page 34.

VOL.CXLIII . No. 49,710 | NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MAY 28, 1994 | 75 cents beyond the greater New York metropolitan area. | 50 CENTS



## *Solzhenitsyn Is in Russia, Hoping for 'Ray of Light'*

By SERGE SCHMEMANN

Special to The New York Times

VLADIVOSTOK, Russia, May 27 — Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn returned from 20 years of exile today to a land he described as "tortured, stunned, altered beyond recognition," proclaiming faith that his countrymen would one day "find a ray of light."

His hair thinner and his face more crinkled, but his prophet's beard fuller and his eyes as lively as when he was forcibly bundled out of Russia in 1974 at 55, Mr. Solzhenitsyn joyfully hugged his son Yermolai and friends waiting



Reuters

Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn at a stop yesterday in Magadan.

on the tarmac of the Vladivostok airport. He accepted the traditional welcome of bread and salt from two women in folk costume before being engulfed by reporters and security men.

With two of his sons, and his wife, Natalya, at his side clutching a large bouquet, Mr. Solzhenitsyn was still smiling and waving 40 minutes later as he arrived in the waning light of the long northern evening in the main square, paradoxically named the Square of the Revolutionary Fighters, which overlooks a tangle of masts in the main port.

The writer who won the 1970 Nobel Prize and drew the wrath of the Soviet state for his intense and graphic descriptions of Stalinist labor camps in which as many as 60 million Soviet citizens perished had finally come home.

A crowd of many thousands had gathered for his scheduled arrival at 7 P.M. But delays en route from Anchorage caused Mr. Solzhenitsyn to arrive at 9:30 P.M., by which time a stiff wind and intermittent rain had shrunk the throng to about 2,000.

Wearing his trademark safari jacket, Mr. Solzhenitsyn mounted a small makeshift platform crowded with local dignitaries, including the Russian Orthodox Bishop of Vladivostok, to read a

*Continued on Page 4, Column 1*



Associated Press

Uganda fishermen on Lake Victoria removing bodies Thursday that washed ashore from Rwanda.

## U.S. ECONOMY GREW AT BRISK 3% RATE IN FIRST QUARTER

### FIGURES REVISED UPWARD

### Interest Rates Climb as Data Add to Bond Market Fears of Resurgent Inflation

By ROBERT D. HERSHEY Jr.

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 27 — In a recalculation of first-quarter growth, the Government reported today that the economy expanded at a steady 3 percent annual clip during the winter because spending by consumers, business and the Federal Government was more than had originally been thought.

The surprising upward revision, from a preliminary estimate of 2.6 percent, touched off a decline in the bond market as investors reacted to fears that the stronger growth could cause inflation and erode the value of fixed-income securities.

The figures coincided with Congressional testimony by Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the Federal Reserve, who said the economy was not yet reflecting any of the restraining effects from the four increases in short-term interest rates since early February. [Page 35.]

The latest figures — while showing only half the growth rate of the fourth quarter of last year — pointed to further solid expansion, with analysts predicting a rate of perhaps 4 percent in the April-to-June quarter. After that, they expect the economy to settle back to a pace it can sustain without risking revived inflation — roughly 2.5 percent.

"Three percent G.D.P. in the face of the California earthquake and unusually severe weather is pretty darn impressive," said Joshua N. Feinman, an economist at the Bankers

## *Bodies From Rwanda Cast a Pall On Lakeside Villages in Uganda*

By DONATELLA LORCH

Special to The New York Times

KASENSERO, Uganda, May 27 — At first, Ngoga Murumba was horrified. Now, after seven days spent pulling bodies from Lake Victoria, wrapping them in plastic and piling them into trucks, the 47-year-old farmer says he feels only numbness.

His face masked to cut the stench, and his hands protected with thick black rubber gloves, Mr. Murumba works in a daze, mechanically emptying canoes of their cargo.

By midday almost 100 bodies, loosely wrapped in black and white plastic sheeting — some almost in-

world with the magnitude of the slaughter, but also prompting a widespread cleanup operation, which began on April 25, to try to avoid a health crisis.

The Ugandan Government has cautioned everyone to boil lake water and thoroughly cook fish from the lake, and large-scale local and international outpourings of assistance have probably averted a crisis. In the last few days, the flow of bodies out of Rwanda has significantly decreased.

Already thousands of bodies have been buried, but officia

## CHINA WELCOMES U.S. TRADE POLICY

### Beijing Pledges Major Effort on Improving Relations

By PATRICK E. TYLER

Special to The New York Times

BEIJING, May 27 — China today welcomed President Clinton's decision to separate trade from human rights, saying a "historic opportunity" exists to improve relations between the United States and China, and pledging to make "major ef-

## *Judge Hints He May Tell Citadel To Scrap Its All-Male Tradition*

By CATHERINE S. MANEGOLD

Special to The New York Times

CHARLESTON, S.C., May 27 — A

suing the school in hopes of being



H ARCHIVE

The New York Times

THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1994

"All the News That's Fit to Print"

# The New York Times

**Late Edition**

New York: **Today,** sun, then showers, thunder. High 77. **Tonight,** storms end. Low 55. **Tomorrow,** windy, afternoon sun. High 63. **Yesterday,** high 86, low 62. Details are on page C18.

VOL.CXLIII . . . No. 49,708 | NEW YORK, THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1994 | 75 cents beyond the greater New York metropolitan area. | 50 CENTS



## *Republicans and Conservatives Solidify Efforts Against Cuomo*

### *G.O.P. Balances Ticket in Race for Comptroller*

By SAM ROBERTS

New York Republicans cemented a potentially vital alliance with the Conservative Party yesterday to rally behind one candidate, George E. Pataki, to challenge the three-term Governor, Mario M. Cuomo, this fall.

In a muscular display of old-fashioned ticket-balancing, the Republicans completed their three-day convention in Manhattan by endorsing for comptroller a Conservative favorite, Herbert London, the New York University economics professor. The convention had resoundingly rejected Mr. London two days earlier for governor when it instead chose Mr. Pataki, a 48-year-old State Senator.

Mr. London had vowed to press ahead as a candidate for governor, a strategy that would have split the votes of conservative New Yorkers and aided Mr. Cuomo's campaign.

Earlier this week Mr. London had derided Mr. Pataki as "the last choice of Al D'Amato," the Republican Senator from New York, and said, "The simple truth is George Pataki has not earned his place in this campaign." But Mr. London was persuaded yesterday to withdraw from the gubernatorial race for another spot on the Republican ticket, and Assemblyman John J. Faso, the front-runner for comptroller, was prevailed upon to step aside for Mr. London.

"If I ran on the Conservative line and it generated even half a million votes, it would have insured Mario Cuomo's re-election, and that I could not countenance," Mr. London said yesterday. He said that in deciding to run on a ticket with Mr. Pataki, he had "put my ego aside to do what's best for the party."

Running four years ago as a Conservative, Mr. London almost outpolled the Republican nominee for governor, Pierre Rinfret. Mr. Cuomo was re-elected in 1990 with 2.2 million votes on the Democratic and Liberal lines, to 865,000 for Mr. Rinfret and 827,000 for Mr. London.

At a breakfast yesterday, even before Mr. London was endorsed, Mr. Pataki said, "The Conservatives should be very happy with the ticket they got." He quoted Michael Long, the Conservative Party state chairman, as saying the party's goal last year in fielding a candidate against Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani "was to make a philosophical statement — this year it's to defeat Cuomo."

The compromise endorsement of

Continued on Page B8, Column 5

Angel Franco/The New York Times

Herbert London

Agence France-Presse

**Solzhenitsyn Leaves Vermont and Begins Long Journey Home**

The Nobel laureate Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, 75, left his home in Cavendish, Vt., yesterday to return to Russia after 20 years in exile. Mr. Solzhenitsyn once said the trees at the house reminded him of Russia. Page A14.

## *Boutros-Ghali Angrily Condemns All Sides for Not Saving Rwanda*

By PAUL LEWIS

Special to The New York Times

UNITED NATIONS, May 25 — Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali expressed exasperation today at the refusal of most countries to send troops to Rwanda. He called the continuing slaughter there "genocide" and said it was a "scandal" that the world has not acted speedily to end the blood-letting.

At a news conference in New York, the Secretary General described the United Nations efforts in Rwanda in harsh terms, saying: "It is a failure not only for the United Nations; it is a failure for the international commu- ... send troops. I was in contact with different organizations and tried my best to be able to help them find a solution to the problem.

"Unfortunately, let us say with great humility, I failed. It is a scandal. I am the first one to say it."

The Secretary General placed the blame on "donor fatigue" among countries that frequently assign troops to the United Nations but now find themselves being asked to support 17 such operations with personnel and money.

In Annapolis, Md., today, President

## CLINTON REJECTS PENALIZING CHINA

### President Is Said to Decide to Extend Trade Benefits

By ELAINE SCIOLINO

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 25 — President Clinton has decided to extend China's trade privileges even though the country has not made as much progress on human rights as the United States had hoped for, senior Administration officials said today.

They said Mr. Clinton, who wi...

## SPACE TELESCOPE CONFIRMS THEORY OF BLACK HOLES

### AS EINSTEIN PREDICTED

### An Invisible Force Gobbling Up Matter in Space Weighs as Much as 3 Billion Suns

By JOHN NOBLE WILFORD

The strange and awesome cosmic phenomenon known as a supermassive black hole, a gravitational monster that gobbles up everything around it and is so powerful that no light or matter can escape, moved from the realm of theory to reality yesterday.

Astronomers using the Hubble Space Telescope announced that they had found conclusive evidence for the existence of an extraordinarily powerful black hole in the center of the giant elliptical galaxy M87, which is 50 million light-years away in the constellation Virgo. This attractive force of collapsed matter weighs as much as three billion Suns but is concentrated in a space no larger than the solar system.

The discovery appeared to lay to rest any remaining skepticism about black holes, predicted by Einstein as part of his general theory of relativity. Over the last three decades, they were the ultimate goal of astrophysics, objects searched for with zeal but seemingly forever out of reach. While scientists theorized and searched, the concept became so widely intriguing and expressive that it crossed into popular culture. The very term black hole has entered everyday language as an all-purpose metaphor.

In their excitement, astronomers were calling the Hubble observations the decisive clue needed to solve the mystery of the tremendous energies and gravitational forces at the cores

## Health Care Panel Struggles Over Public Fall of Its Leader

By ROBIN TONER



https://www.linkedin.com/posts/activity-7350164312134438912-DjhB



Denis Dyomkin Author

GC. Ex-Reuters

1h

Speaking of the newspaper The Stalin Banner (бывают странные сближенья), here is its front page from June 2, 1943. The following is centred on the page: "Comrade Stalin's Reply to a Question from the Chief Correspondent of the English Reuters Agency."

The Moscow correspondent of the English agency, G. King, wrote to Comrade I.V. Stalin, Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR, with a question of interest to the British public.

Comrade J.V. Stalin replied to Mr. King with the following letter:

"Mr. King!
I have received your request for an answer to a question regarding the dissolution of the Communist International. I am sending you my reply"...

"A historic Reuters scoop." That's how one of the agency's veteran journalists put it.

ПРОЛЕТАРИИ ВСЕХ СТРАН, СОЕДИНЯЙТЕСЬ!



# СТАЛИНСКОЕ ЗНАМЯ

ОРГАН УЗЛОВСКОГО ГОРКОМА И РАЙКОМА ВКП(б), ГОРИСПОЛКОМА И РАЙИСПОЛКОМА СОВЕТОВ ДЕПУТАТОВ ТРУДЯЩИХСЯ МОСКОВСКОЙ ОБЛАСТИ

Среда 2 июня 1943 г. Цена 15 коп. № 64(1620)

С первых же дней нового месяца работать РИТМИЧНО, на полную мощность станков и машин, выполнять и перевыполнять производственные задания из смены в смену!

## Развить вширь инициативу молодых патриотов

Вступая в весенний сев 1943 года молодые патриоты сельского хозяйства активно включились в социалистическое соревнование на успешное проведение полевых работ. Как только начался сев в колхозах нашего района 200 подростков взялись за плуг, борону, эта армия комсомольцев и молодежи отдавала и отдает все свои силы, весь юношеский задор делу борьбы за высокий военный урожай.

Недавно райком комсомола подвел итоги соревнования молодых пахарей на весеннем севе. Результаты соревнования хорошие. В период весеннего сева выросли замечательные стахановцы колхозного села, с честью выполнившие, принятые на себя обязательства.

Молодые пахари колхоза имени Калинина Хитровского сельсовета, Доможиров К. Г. и Доможиров Р. П., норму на пахоте выполняли на 130—160 проц. Они вспахали большие десятки гектаров земли, с хорошим качеством заделывали вложенные в землю семена. И таких Доможировых в районе много.

Почетную славу в районе завоевал молодой конюх колхоза имени Чкалова, комсомолец Подлипаев В. А. Это заботливый юноша, всем сердцем любящий свое дело. Молодой конюх хорошим уходом добился средней и вышесредней упитанности лошадей, он недопускает обезлички. Дает с конюшни коня только тому [illegible], за которым он закреплен.

Комсомолец Подлипаев всегда ждет пахарей, и как только они появятся у конюшни, он тщательно осматривает коней, нет ли у них побоев, следит затем, чтобы хорошо была подогнана сбруя.

## Ответ тов. И. В. Сталина на вопрос главного корреспондента английского агентства Рейтер

Московский корреспондент английского агентства Рейтер г. Кинг обратился к Председателю Совета Народных Комиссаров СССР тов. И. В. Сталину с письмом, в котором он просил ответить на вопрос, интересующий английскую общественность.

Тов. И. В. Сталин ответил г-ну Кингу следующим письмом:

Господин Кинг!

Я получил от Вас просьбу ответить на вопрос, касающийся роспуска Коммунистического Интернационала. Посылаю Вам свой ответ.

Вопрос. „Британские комментарии по поводу решения о ликвидации Коминтерна были весьма благоприятными. Какова советская точка зрения на этот вопрос и на его влияние на будущее международных отношений?"

Ответ. Роспуск Коммунистического Интернационала является правильным и своевременным, так как он облегчает организацию общего натиска всех свободолюбивых наций против общего врага — гитлеризма.

Роспуск Коммунистического Интернационала правилен, так как:

а) Он разоблачает ложь гитлеровцев о том, что „Москва" якобы намерена вмешиваться в жизнь других государств и „большевизировать" их. Этой лжи отныне кладется конец.

б) Он разоблачает клевету противников коммунизма в рабочем движении о том, что коммунистические партии различных стран действуют якобы не в интересах своего народа, а по приказу извне. Этой клевете отныне также кладется конец.

в) Он облегчает работу патриотов свободолюбивых стран по об'единению прогрессивных сил своей страны, независимо от их партийности и религиозных убеждений, в единый национально-освободительный лагерь, — для развертывания борьбы против фашизма.

г) Он облегчает работу патриотов всех стран по об'единению всех свободолюбивых народов в единый международный лагерь для борьбы против угрозы мирового господства гитлеризма, расчищая тем самым путь для организации в будущем содружества народов на основе их равноправия.

Я думаю, что все эти обстоятельства, взятые вместе, приведут к дальнейшему укреплению единого фронта союзников и других Об'единенных наций в их борьбе за победу над гитлеровской тиранией.

Я считаю, что роспуск Коммунистического Интернационала является вполне своевременным, так как именно теперь, когда фашистский зверь напрягает свои последние силы, — необходимо организовать общий натиск свободолюбивых стран для того, чтобы добить этого зверя и избавить народы от фашистского гнета.

С уважением И. Сталин.

28 мая 1943 г.

Действующая армия



8-я гвардейская казачья имени Морозова кавалерийская дивизия в боях за Родину показала образцы мужества и отваги.
На снимке: Расчет тяжелого миномета гвардии казака А. А. Тулупова. На заднем плане А. А. Тулупов.
Фото Д. [illegible] Фотохроника ТАСС

## Во внеурочное время — 8648 тонн угля

По инициативе коммунистов и комсомольцев шахт треста «Молотовуголь» в мае было развернуто замечательное движение за добычу угля во внеурочное время.

В отработке участвовали сотни горняков. Не только коммунисты и комсомольцы, но большинство шахтеров горело желанием внести тонны угля в особый фонд Главного Командования Красной Армии.

Горняки треста добыли во внеурочное время 8648 тонн угля. С честью выполнили принятые на себя обязательства горняки шахты № 3, давшие в особый фонд 1242 тонны топлива.